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(FORM UPDATED: 08/11/2010)

WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE ... PUBLIC HEARING - COMMITTEE RECORDS

2007-08

(session year)

Senate

(Assembly, Senate, or Joint)

Committee on ...
Environment and Natural Resources
(SC-ENR)

INFORMATION COLLECTED BY COMMITTEE FOR AND AGAINST PROPOSAL

- Appointments ... Appt (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Clearinghouse Rules ... CRule (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)
- Hearing Records ... HR ... bills and resolutions (w/Record of Comm. Proceedings)

(ab = Assembly Bill)

(ar = Assembly Resolution)

(ajr = Assembly Joint Resolution)

(**sb** = Senate Bill)

(**sr** = Senate Resolution)

(sjr = Senate Joint Resolution)

Miscellaneous ... Misc

Senate

Record of Committee Proceedings

Committee on Environment and Natural Resources

Assembly Bill 782

Relating to: a floodplain zoning ordinance exemption for construction activities related to the veterans memorial building in the city of Burlington in Racine County.

By Representatives Kerkman, Gunderson, Vos and Turner; cosponsored by Senator Wirch.

February 28, 2008

Referred to Committee on Environment and Natural Resources.

March 3, 2008

PUBLIC HEARING HELD

Present:

(5) Senators Miller, Jauch, Wirch, Kedzie and Schultz.

Absent:

(0) None.

Appearances For

- Samantha Kerkman, Genoa City Representative, 66th Assembly District
- Bob Wirch, Kenosha Senator, 22nd Senate District
- Claude Lois, Burlington Mayor, City of Burlington
- Kevin Lahner, Burlington City of Burlington

Appearances Against

None.

Appearances for Information Only

- Gary Heinrichs, Madison Department of Natural Resources
- Meg Galloway, Madison Department of Natural Resources

Registrations For

- Thomas Stelling, Lake Geneva Burlington VFW 2823
- HM Neil, Burlington American Legion
- Jerry DeLay, Burlington American Legion
- Mike Furgal, Monroe Veterans of Foreign Wars

Registrations Against

• Richard Wedepohl, Madison — himself

Registrations for Information Only

• None.

Elizabeth Bier Committee Clerk



WISCONSIN STATE LEGISLATURE



BURLINGTON VETERANS MEMORIAL BUILDING EXEMPTION ASSEMBLY BILL 782

PROJECT FOR:

VETERANS TERRACE AT ECHO PARK 588 MILWAUKEE AVENUE

BURLINGTON, WISCONSIN

PROJECT #: 05022

PROJECT:
ADDITION / REMODELING

<u>DATE:</u>
March 3, 2008

CITY OF BURLINGTON

300 N. PINE STREET BURLINGTON, WI 53105

ARCHITECT:

STELLING & ASSOCIATES ARCHITECTS, LTD.

181 WEST CHESTNUT STREET BURLINGTON, WI 53105 (262)-763-8725

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City of Burlington

City Hall - 300 N. Pine Street Burlington, Wisconsin 53105-1460 Phone: (262) 763-7996 Fax: (262) 763-3474 www.burlington-wi.gov

Date: March 3, 2008

To: Chairman Mark Miller and Members of the Environment and Natural Resources

Committee

From: Claude Lois - City of Burlington Mayor

Re: Burlington Veterans Memorial Building Exemption - Assembly Bill 782

Chairman Miller and Members of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, my name is Claude Lois and I serve as the Mayor of the City of Burlington. I first want to thank you for your consideration of Assembly Bill 782. As you are aware, this bill has unanimously passed the Assembly Natural Resources Committee, and the State Assembly.

In order to fully understand this issue, I must first provide you some historical context. Back in 1959 the three Veterans groups in the City of Burlington - the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Disabled American Veterans, pulled together with a concept of creating a living memorial to the Burlington area Veterans, and a permanent community center that Burlington could be proud of. As a result, in the name of community service, the entire city pulled together to fund and construct a wonderful facility on the banks of the White River in downtown Burlington. The building opened in 1962 and since that time, countless community events, weddings and receptions have been held at the facility.

Unfortunately, time has taken its toll on the building, and it is no longer the building of choice to host events, and it is time to refurbish it to its previous glory. As a result, the community of Burlington has again come together and is in the process of raising more than \$4 million to refurbish and expand the building. Including meeting all local codes, the refurbishment and addition will bring the building into compliance with current Americans with Disabilities Act standards. More than half of the funds have been raised, and we are now ready to begin construction. The new design remodels the existing building and adds 8900 square feet to the main floor, while creating a parking structure located underneath the addition, allowing access to the existing lower level. The current design meets all of the City of Burlington's zoning regulations and code requirements.

Unfortunately, a technical calculation as interpreted by the Department of Natural Resources is not allowing us to move forward on this project. Currently, the Veterans Memorial Building is not located in the designated 100-year floodplain as designated by the 1982 Federal Emergency Management Agency, Flood Insurance Rate Map. This map is the most current edition of the designated floodplain, as determined by FEMA.

Additionally, the building is not in the floodplain according to the City of Burlington's officially adopted floodplain zoning map of 1984. This map was produced by the Southeast Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission, based upon FEMA's 1977 study and officially adopted by the Burlington Common Council. However, according to the Department of Natural Resources officials, detailed engineering calculations based upon more detailed study of the site, completed by the engineering firm working with the community on this project, place the existing building and any proposed addition in the 100-year floodplain. It should be noted that the DNR is basing this conclusion upon flood profiles completed in the 1977 study. Based upon this interpretation, the DNR is not allowing us to move forward, as they contend that the refurbished and expanded structure would violate provisions of state statue N.R. 116.

I think that it is very important to point out that the current structure has existed since 1962, and has never been subject to any flooding issues of any kind. Additionally, if this project does not move forward, the existing building is as likely to flood as it was on the day it was built in 1962. However, if the project is allowed to move forward the refurbished building and addition will be flood-proofed to Federal Emergency Management Association standards and no portion of the addition will be located in the designated floodplain. The bottom line is the refurbished and expanded building will be less likely to flood, than the current building as it stands today.

Finally, according the DNR regulations, the City and Veterans groups could spend several tens of thousands of dollars to fill the site, officially remove the site from the floodplain, and then remove the fill and build the project as it is currently designed and meet all the requirements of N.R. 116.

Thank you all very much for your time today and your consideration of this bill. On behalf of the Burlington area Veterans and the entire Burlington community, I respectfully request that you approve this exemption and allow us to move forward on this important community project.

Contact Information:

Mayor Claude Lois City of Burlington 300 North Pine Street Burlington, WI 53105 Phone: 262.342.1161

Racine County CORAGIS Project

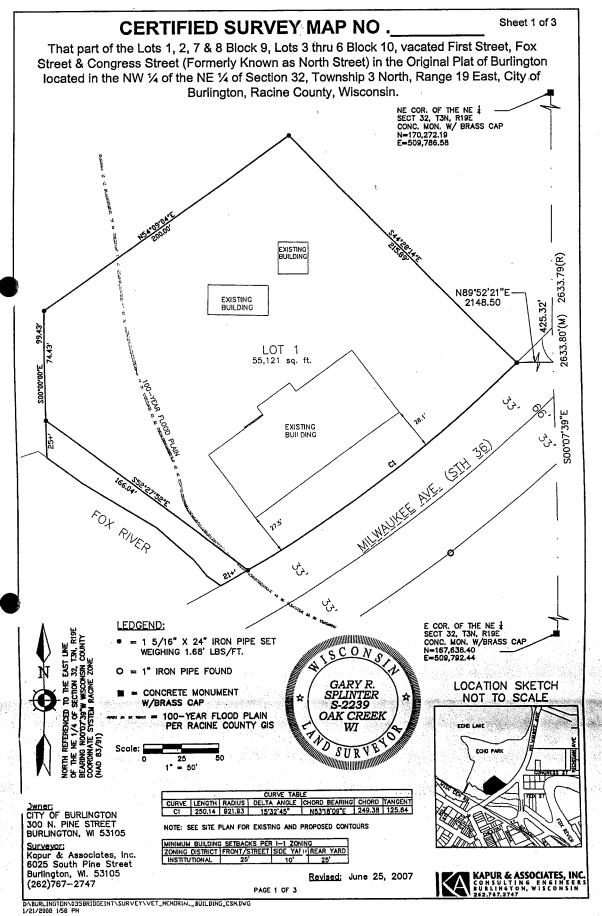


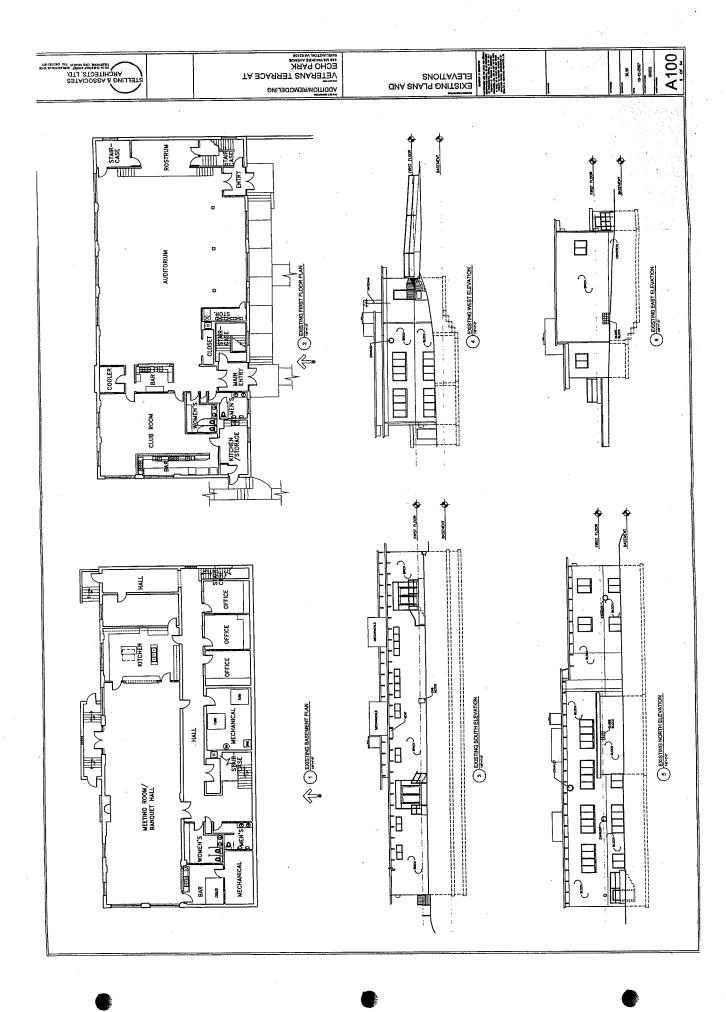
1 inch equals 150 feet



Disclaimer: The information and depictions herein have been produced using data available through photogrametric means by Racine County. The information and depiction, measurements, are for informational purposes and Racine County specifically disclaims accuracy in this production and specifically admonishes and advises that any and all depiction, measurements, distances depicted herein and as to which specific or precise accuracy is required should be determined by procurement of certified maps, surveys, plats, Flood Insurance Studies, or other official means.

Printed 2/5/2008





VETERANS TERRACE AT ECHO LAKE
SESPILIVALMERE AVENUE
BURLINGTON NE 53165 ADDITION/REMODELING



